Food Labelling in Indonesia

Food labelling is required under Government Regulation No. 69 year 1999 however, while imminent, the National Agency for Drug and Food Control is still in process (1/2002) of preparing the guidelines to enforce the regulation.

Please note that in addition Government of Indonesia Law No. 7 year 1996 requires food registration and labelling prior to sale in Indonesia. For foreign producers, registration is normally done by the importer or manufacturer's's agent on behalf of the producer and must be completed before the food is imported into Indonesia. The process itself can be relatively straightforward. Approvals are issued by the National Agency for Drug and Food Control of the Department of Health and the registration number must be printed on the label.

Below is a summary of the Government regulation of food labels :

Indonesia Food Labelling Regulations

- Producers or importers of packaged food for retail sale in Indonesia are obliged to affix a label on all packaged food products.
- The label should be permanently attached and easy to see and to read.
- The label should contain information on the food. and at a minimum should mention:
    - Name of the product;
    - A list of the food contents as well as any additives and their individual net weights.
    - Name and address of the party who produces or imports the food product into Indonesia.
    - Expiry date (month and year) for any products which have a shelf life.
- The information and or statements on the label including drawings or any other graphic information should be correct and not misleading.
- Statements in the label on any health claims may only be mentioned if these claims are supported by documented scientific fact.
- Producer or importer claims that the food is permitted for consumption by Moslems are responsible for the correctness of these statements and are obliged to mention the word "Halal" (Lawful) on the label. (For information on "Halal" food certification) please refer to the Halal Food Study.
- Statements on the label should be printed in the Indonesian language.

- Any statement on the label claims that the food has been added, enriched or fortified with vitamins, minerals or other nutrition enriching substances are not forbidden as long as the materials are added during food processing.
- The food producers's name and address should be included in the label. For imported food, in addition to the producer information, importer's names and address should also be includes.
- Food production batch codes should be also be visibly mentioned in the label, container or food packaging.
- The information on the content of the food nutrition should be mentioned in the following order :
    - Total energy, in detail by virtue of energy number value stemming from fat, protein and carbohydrate.
    - Total values of fat, saturated fat, cholesterol, total carbohydrate, fibre, sugar, protein, vitamin and mineral.
- For irradiated food, the label should have the words IRRADIATED FOODS recorded. The label for irradiated food should contain :
    - name & address of irradiating agency, if the irradiation is not performed by the food producer itself.
    - date of irradiation in month and year
    - name of the country where the irradiation took place.
- For food products resulting from a genetic modification, the words GENETICALLY MODIFIED FOOD should be recorded on the label.
- Processed food destined especially for infants, children under five years of age, pregnant or breast feeding mothers, special diet users, the elderly and those who suffer from certain diseases, should contain consumer information on any procedures for use, and or information that needs to be understood.
- For processed foods which require special preparation, the label should include preparation procedures and details on the usage of the product. This information may also be noted on the food container or packaging rather than individual labels.
- Special storage procedures should be mentioned in the label.
- Labels for food supplements should indicate that the product is a food supplement. Name of the group of food material and the name of the food material supplement, and or its international code.